

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CRITICISM OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S JULY 15TH SPEECH ON
THE UNITED NATIONS

1. SUMMARY: IN A JULY 16 EDITORIAL ENTITLED, QTE PETULANT
BETRAYAL END QTE "THE AUSTRALIAN" STRONGLY CRITICIZED SECRETARY
KISSINGER'S JULY 15 SPEECH ON THE UNITED NATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE EDITORIAL IN "THE AUSTRALIAN" STATED:

QTE IT IS A NASTY EXPERIENCE TO HAVE THAT SYMBOL OF
EVERYBODY'S IDEALISM, THE UNITED NATIONS, DESCRIBED AS AN
INNER QTE EMPTY SHELL END INNER QTE - WHICH IS HOW IT WAS
DESCRIBED YESTERDAY BY THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE,
DR. KISSINGER. HE DID NOT SAY THAT THE UN "IS" AN EMPTY SHELL.
HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IF AMERICA LEFT IT. HE SAID, IN
EFFECT, THAT IF THE THIRD WORLD WANTS TO USE THE UN FOR
PURPOSES OF WHAT HE CALLED IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONTATION, THEN THE
U.S. MIGHT AS WELL DROP OUT.

3. QTE. THIS IS PETTY. IT IS A BETRAYAL OF THE FAITH WHICH
MOST OF US HAVE IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION. IT IS A
THROWBACK TO THE DAYS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, SUPPORTED BY
PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON BUT REJECTED BY HIS CONSERVATIVE
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PAGE 02 CANBER 04674 160221Z

CONGRESS; A LEAGUE OF NATIONS WHICH PROVED IMPOTENT IN THE

EVENT OF MUSSOLINI'S RAPE OF ABYSSINIA.

4. QTE. BUT THERE IS MORE TO IT THAN THAT; MORE THAN PETTINESS. AMERICA, RELUCTANTLY DRAGGED INTO WORLD WAR I, WAS IN AN ISOLATIONIST MOOD IN 1918. AMERICA, TRAUMATICALLY DEFEATED IN INDO-CHINA, BY 1975, IS IN DANGER OF AGAIN MOVING INTO AN ISOLATIONIST MOOD.

5. QTE. THIS IS WHAT ITS LEADERS ARE TRYING TO AVOID. BUT DR. KISSINGER'S OUTBURST IN WISCONSIN WAS ONE OF FRUSTRATION - FRUSTRATION AT AMERICA'S FAILURE TO LIVE UP TO ITS IDEALS; FRUSTRATION AT AMERICA'S FAILURE, WHILE BY FAR THE BIGGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO UN FUNDS, TO ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES.

6. QTE. NOT EVEN IN WOODROW WILSON'S TIME DID A SECRETARY OF STATE PUT AMERICA'S POSITION SO BLUNTLY ON THE LINE. TO PARAPHRASE, DR. KISSINGER SAID: INNER QTE. WE DON'T NEED THE UN. WE WILL BE JUST AS WELL OFF WITHOUT IT. IT IS THE LITTLE NATIONS WHO NEED THE UN AND IT IS THESE LITTLE NATIONS WHO ARE THROWING THE EXISTENCE OF THE ORGANIZATION INTO JEOPARDY BY VOTING FOR MEASURES WHICH AMERICA DOES NOT APPROVE. END INNER QTE.

7. QTE. TO BE SURE, THERE IS A DEGREE OF IRRATIONALITY IN A THIRD WORLD WHICH INCLUDES SUCH ERRATIC CHARACTERS AS COLONEL KHADDAFY OF LIBYA AND GENERAL IDI AMIN OF UGANDA. BUT AUSTRALIANS ARE ENTITLED TO EXPECT MORE FROM THE NATION WHICH IS STILL OUR CHIEF ALLY, FROM A COUNTRY WHICH EXPECTS ALMOST AS MUCH FROM US AS WE EXPECT FROM IT.

8. QTE. IT IS NOT HARD TO UNDERSTAND AMERICA'S DILEMMA. THE VIETNAM DEBACLE HAS HURT IT VERY DEEPLY. ITS REPUBLICAN RULERS ARE FACED WITH THE CHOICE OF ABDICATING FROM ANY WORLD ROLE OR RESTATING AMERICA'S RESOLVE IN NEW AND HOPEFULLY CONVINCING TERMS. THIS IS WHAT ITS DEFENCE SECRETARY, MR. SCHLESINGER, TRIED TO DO WHEN HE SAID AMERICA WOULD USE TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE EVENT OF ANY NEW WAR IN KOREA.

9. PERHAPS THIS WAS ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN AMERICA'S GLOBAL IMAGE. BUT NOTHING COULD BE MORE NEGATIVE THAN A PUBLICLY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 CANBER 04674 160221Z

ANNOUNCED LOSS OF FAITH IN THE UNITED NATIONS. IT MAY BE THAT A WEAKENED AMERICA HAS TO BLUFF, BUT, PLEASE, NOT THIS SORT OF BLUFF. END QTE.
GREEN

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